

Remarks

By this Amendment, claims 43-46 have been amended to recite phosphoramidite compound, consistent with the preamble of claim 42, and new claims 47-59 have been added. Claims 42-59 are now pending.

Support for new claims 48-51 is essentially the same as for previously submitted claims 43-46, for example. Exemplary support for claims 47 and 52-59 can be found in the original application in Figures 2A and 2B and in the specification at pages 23-27 ("Phosphormidite Reagents") and Example 1 on page 38. No new matter has been added.

Rejections

Claims 42-46 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patents No. 6,020,481 and 6,617,445. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed, obviating these rejections.

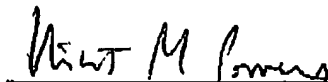
The applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

FEE AUTHORIZATION and REQUEST FOR TIME EXTENSION

If any additional time extensions are required, such time extensions are hereby requested. If any additional fees not submitted with this response are required, please take such fees from Applied Biosystems Deposit Account No. 01-2213 (Order No. 4299C3).

Respectfully submitted,

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